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3) Prime Minister's Official Residence (Kantei)

Prime Minister's schedule, September 14

NIKKEI (Page 2) (Full)  
September 15, 2009

07:31 Took a walk around his private residence in Kamiyama-cho.  
10:00 Met Defense Parliament Secretary for Defense Takeda at the Kantei.  
11:45 Met Chief Cabinet Secretary Kawamura, followed by Vice Foreign Minister Yabunaka and Deputy Foreign Minister Sasae.  
13:07 Parliamentary Secretary for Education, Culture, Sports and S&T Hagiuda.  
14:00 Met DPJ President Hatoyama in the Diet building. Kawamura and DPJ executive office chief Hirano were present. Kawamura stayed behind.

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14:31 Arrived at the Kantei.  
15:08 Met foreign trainees at the Japan Patent Office. Then inspected the office.  
16:12 Arrived at the Kantei.  
18:54 Dined with his secretaries at a steak house in Nihonbashi.  
22:06 Arrived at his private residence.

4) DPJ President Hatoyama's schedule, September 14

09:00 Left home in Denenchofu with his wife Miyuki.  
09:33 Arrived at his private office in Nagata-cho.  
11:02 Met Korean actor Lee Seojin. His wife was present.  
11:34 Met party executive office chief Hirano at the party headquarters.  
12:06 Dined with his wife at a Chinese restaurant in the Sanno Park Tower in Nagata-cho.  
13:03 Met Policy Research Council Chairman Naoshima at the party headquarters.  
14:00 Met Prime Minister Aso in the Diet building. Chief Cabinet Secretary Kawamura and Hirano were present.  
14:48 Met Lower House member Motohisa Furukawa at the party headquarters. Lower House member Yorihiisa Matsuno was present.  
15:28 Met Furukawa, Matsuno, and Hirano. Hirano stayed behind. Deputy President Kan joined.  
16:06 Met Deputy Foreign Minister Otabe and Vice Finance Minister for International Financial Affairs Tamaki. Furukawa was present.  
17:19 Met Upper House member Kohei Otsuka and Furukawa.  
18:22 Met Deputy President Ozawa.  
18:56 Met U.S. Ambassador to Japan Roos at the U.S. Embassy in Akasaka. His wife was present.  
21:45 Arrived home.

5) U.S. sounded out Japan this April on F-16 pullout from Misawa base; Tokyo frowned, withholding reply

KAHOKU SHIMPO (Online) (Abridged)  
September 12, 2009

The U.S. government sounded out the Japanese government early this April on a plan to withdraw all of about 40 F-16 fighter jets currently deployed to the U.S. Misawa Air Base in Misawa City, Aomori Prefecture, beginning as early as this year, sources on Japan-U.S. relations revealed yesterday. At the same time, the U.S. government also proposed reducing the current deployment of F-15 fighter jets to the U.S. Kadena Air Base, which straddles Kadena Town and some other municipalities in Japan's southernmost island prefecture of Okinawa and which currently deploys more than 50 F-15s, according to the sources.

The move reflects the Obama administration's review of the United States' defense strategy since coming into office. The Japanese government, concerned about the impact on the North Korean situation and the realignment of U.S. forces in Japan, is opposed to the proposed plans and withholding an answer, the sources said. Japan and the United States have reached an intergovernmental agreement on a plan to realign U.S. forces in Japan, based on the current

deployment of U.S. forces in Japan. With the Democratic Party of Japan soon to launch a new government under DPJ President Hatoyama, the Japanese and U.S. governments could enter into consultations over this issue and again focus on such matters as the proposal to move the heliport functions of the U.S. Marine Corps' Futenma Air Station in Ginowan City, Okinawa Prefecture, to the Kadena base.

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A Japanese government official predicts that in case the Misawa-based F-16s are withdrawn, F-35 fighter jets could be deployed instead in rotation from a U.S. base on Guam. The F-35 is a next-generation fighter jet model.

The F-35, however, has yet to be mass-produced. Its deployment is still more than five years away. The Misawa base may therefore have no fighter planes deployed on a standing basis.

On April 6 this year, U.S. Secretary of Defense Gates held a press conference at the Department of Defense regarding a plan to review the defense budget for fiscal 2010 (Oct. 2009 through Sept. 2010). In his press remarks there, Gates clarified his decision to forgo placing additional orders for the F-22 Raptor, a state-of-the-art stealth fighter that the Air Self-Defense Force had regarded as a likely candidate in the process of screening and selecting its follow-on mainstay fighter jet model. On that occasion, the Pentagon chief revealed a plan to retire 250 outdated fighter planes, including F-16s, in FY2010. In addition, he also revealed a plan to expedite the procurement of F-35s, produce 513 F-35s in five years, and buy a total of 2,443 F-35s in the end.

Washington came up with the plans through diplomatic channels around that press conference to withdraw the Misawa-based F-16s and reduce the Kadena-based F-15s, according to sources on Japan-U.S. relations. The plans were conveyed to the Defense Ministry through the Foreign Ministry. However, Tokyo sealed the plans as extremely confidential information, giving thought to such factors as the potential impact on the bilateral alliance. The Japanese government has not formally owned up to its having been sounded out on the plans.

6) F-16 pullout plan an earth-shattering event for base town

TOO NIPPO Online (Excerpts)  
September 12, 2009

Reports that the U.S. government has sounded out Japan on a plan to pull out F-16 fighters from Misawa Air Base have shaken the local community. The news has also sparked concerns that the fighter withdrawal will deal a serious blow to the local economy.

A Misawa city official did not conceal his surprise at the U.S. government's plan to withdraw the F-16s, describing it as an "astounding event." In 1970 an air unit was relocated from the Misawa base to South Korea and the continental United States as part of a plan to reduce U.S. forces in Japan. Consequently, over 1,000 base workers lost their jobs.

"That event caused the collapse of about half of Misawa City." The city official is concerned about the reoccurrence of that "incident."

"It's a bolt from the blue," said a 49-year-old Japanese base employee. "There has been a rumor that the aging F-16s will be replaced with a new model. (The U.S. military announced the other day) a plan encouraging U.S. service members and their families to live on base. Was it a move in anticipation of the F-16 pullout? If the F-16s are actually pulled out, it will deal a serious blow to us base workers and to the city itself."

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A Misawa real estate agent managing apartments and houses for many U.S. service members commented: "If the aircraft are pulled out

rather than replaced with new ones, we will be in trouble. Over 1,000 service members might be pulled out along with the fighters. I want more information." The owner of a restaurant whose patrons are 70 PERCENT Americans said, "I don't know how many people will leave the city, but a withdrawal is certain to deal a big blow to us. We are already suffering from a strong yen."

There is an observation that the F-16 pullout plan is designed to apply pressure to the incoming administration led by the Democratic Party of Japan (DPJ). A senior commerce and industry association official wondered why information on the pullout was disclosed just as the new administration is about to be launched. A senior official of a civic organization active in exchanges with Americans took this view: "Information was probably leaked intentionally to intimidate the DPJ. It's just like the United States to take such an approach."

7) Misawa, prefectural governments have not received any information on F-16 pullout

TOO NIPPO Online (Excerpts)  
September 12, 2009

The U.S. government sounded out Japan on a plan to withdraw the F-16 fighters from the U.S. Misawa base. To the Misawa municipal government and the Aomori prefectural government, this move was a bolt from the blue. In an interview on Sept. 11, Misawa Mayor Kazumasa Taneichi stated: "We have not received any information. I cannot say anything about (a possible impact on the local region) based on a hypothetical situation. I want to confirm the matter with the central government early next week." City assembly base affairs special subcommittee chairman Masahiko Kohiruimaki said emphatically, "The local region has been left behind in talks between the two states. We wanted them to show some consideration, such as providing advance information."

An official with the prefectural government anti-disaster and firefighting division also indicated with a surprised look on his face that the prefectural government had not received any information from the central government. Vice-Governor Takeshi Ebina said, "We haven't received any information, so I cannot comment on our response at this point."

8) Ginowan mayor pays visit to DPJ, SDP, PNP regarding Futenma relocation

MAINICHI (Page 5) (Full)  
September 15, 2009

Okinawa Prefecture's Ginowan Mayor Yoichi Iha yesterday visited the Democratic Party of Japan (DPJ), Social Democratic Party (SDP), and People's New Party (PNP) to file a petition with the three parties in connection with reviewing the planned relocation of the U.S. Marine Corps' Futenma Air Station in his city. In yesterday's meetings with the three parties' leaders, Iha filed a petition for relocating Futenma airfield outside Japan or the prefecture. According to Iha, DPJ Policy Research Committee Chairman Masayuki Naoshima said, "We want to tackle this issue while building a relationship of mutual trust with the U.S. Obama administration." Iha also quoted SDP President Mizuho Fukushima as saying her party

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would exert its utmost effort to resolve the Futenma issue. The PNP's leaders were all absent and a staff official met with the mayor.

9) Ginowan mayor asks Shii to resolve Futenma issue swiftly

AKAHATA (Page 2) (Excerpts)  
September 15, 2009

Japanese Communist Party (JCP) Chairman Kazuo Shii held talks with Ginowan Mayor Yoichi Iha at party headquarters yesterday. In the session, the mayor asked for the JCP's cooperation for the early closure and return of the U.S. Marine Corps' Futenma Air Station, which occupies the city's central part, and for making (U.S. forces)

abide by the safety and environmental criteria comparable to those in the continental United States.

In response, Chairman Shii promised the party's cooperation, saying, "It is important that in party-head debates during the campaigning (for the Aug. 30 general election), Democratic Party of Japan (DPJ) President Yukio Hatoyama declared that (a DPJ administration) will move Futenma Air Station out of the prefecture. It is a public pledge, so we will press the party to deliver on its promise."

At the same time, Chairman Shii indicated that if Hatoyama is to carry out what he promised, the 1996 SACO (Special Action Committee on Okinawa) agreement must be reviewed. "We will urge (the DPJ) to hold talks to fundamentally review the Japan-U.S. agreement and return it to square one" Shii said.

He also underlined the need to immediately correct the U.S. forces' failure to abide by the U.S.-level safety criteria at Futenma Air Station, indicating that it is the incoming administration's responsibility to eliminate the danger to the base by shutting it down.

Iha said: "I am counting on such a position of the DPJ. I also want to see the parties joining the new administration to resume talks on a review of the intergovernmental agreement. I definitely want to see the DPJ give a boost to such an effort."

Shii stated: "The Obama administration has shown positive changes regarding the nuclear weapons issue and other matters. Meanwhile, there has been no change in Japan-U.S. relations because the LDP-New Komeito administration said absolutely nothing. It is important to make efforts to convey the voices of the peoples of Japan and Okinawa to the other side. We are going to urge the new administration to do just that."

10) Hatoyama likely to pick Fujii as finance minister, Maehara as transport minister, Fukushima as state minister for consumer affairs or state minister for declining birthrate, Kamei as defense minister

NIKKEI (Top play) (Excerpts)  
September 15, 2009

Democratic Party of Japan (DPJ) President Yukio Hatoyama met yesterday evening with DPJ Deputy President Ichiro Ozawa to discuss the appointment of new cabinet and DPJ executive members. At the meeting, Hatoyama decided to appoint Hirohisa Fujii, a supreme advisor to the DPJ, as finance minister. He is also likely to pick

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Vice President Seiji Maehara for the post of land, infrastructure, and transport minister. Hatoyama intends to assign the post of state minister for consumer affairs or state minister for declining birthrate to Mizuho Fukushima, chairperson of the Social Democratic Party (SDP), with which the DPJ will form a coalition government. He also plans to assign the post of defense minister to Shizuka Kamei, leader of the People's New Party (PNP), the other coalition partner.

Hatoyama has so far informally appointed Hirofumi Hirano, head of the DPJ's executive office, as chief cabinet secretary, Deputy President Naoto Kan as deputy prime minister and national strategy minister, and Secretary General Katsuya Okada as foreign minister. It has also been decided that Policy Research Committee Chairman Masayuki Naoshima will join the new cabinet. The planned National Strategy Bureau, which will be under the direct control of the new prime minister, is responsible for drafting state budgets and the nation's basic policies. In order to centralize decision-making processes, Kan will concurrently serve as LDP policy chief.

11) DPJ parliamentary group actually to have 312 members in Lower House

NIKKEI (Page 2) (Full)  
September 15, 2009

It was decided yesterday that New Party Nippon leader Yasuo Tanaka (elected in the Hyogo No. 8 district), Hiroshi Kawaguchi (Akita No. 2 district), an independent, and Hidesaburo Kawamura (Miyazaki No. 1 district), an independent, will join the Democratic Party of Japan (DPJ) parliamentary group in the House of Representatives. The three won their seats in the Sept. 30 Lower House general election.

The DPJ won 308 seats in last month's general election. Since New Party Daichi leader Muneo Suzuki (proportional representation Hokkaido bloc) has already decided to join the group, the DPJ parliamentary group will count 312 members. However, if Takahiro Yokomichi is elected as speaker of the Lower House at a special Diet session to be convened on Sept. 16, he will leave the parliamentary group in accordance with convention. As a result, the DPJ parliamentary group will have 311 Lower House members.

12) Aso cabinet to come to an end tomorrow

SANKEI (Page 5) (Abridged)  
September 15, 2009

The Aso cabinet will resign en masse on Sept. 16 after 358 days in office, to be replaced by the next administration. Prime Minister Taro Aso in September last year was elected last September as Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) president as the "face of the election." However, approval ratings for his cabinet plunged after he put off Lower House dissolution due to the global economic crisis. Moves to oust him have continued in the party due in part to his inappropriate comments. The state of mind of the prime minister, who has brought the 50-year-old LDP administration to an end, may be like Tokugawa Yoshinobu, the 15th shogun, who surrendered without firing a shot at the Satsuma-Choshu allied forces.

13) Taro Kono intends to run in LDP presidential race

ASAHI (Page 1) (Full)

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September 15, 2009

House of Representatives member Taro Kono, 46, of the Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) met with junior and mid-level LDP members yesterday evening in Tokyo. At the meeting, he made up his mind to run in the Sept. 28 LDP presidential election, for which the official campaign will kick off on Sept. 18. Kono is now serving in his fifth term in the Diet, representing the Kanagawa No. 15 district. Former Finance Minister Sadakazu Tanigaki, 64, who declared his candidacy on Sept. 13, is supported by veteran lawmakers. Therefore, the situation in the LDP is now beginning to take on aspects of generational confrontation.

"I intend to run for the presidency," said Kono. "Taking the lead in reforming the party, I wish to promote a generational change. I think I am the most suitable person to do so. If 20 recommendations (the number of supporters required for LDP members to run in presidential elections) are collected, I will formally announce my candidacy."

House of Councillors member Hiroshige Seko said, "He needs two more recommendations." Kono is the oldest son of former Lower House Speaker Yohei Kono. He belongs to the Aso faction of the LDP.

14) White House studied possibility of visit to Hiroshima by former President Ford during his trip to Japan in 1974

ASAHI (Top Play) (Excerpts)  
September 15, 2009

(Toshihiro Okuyama)

The White House studied the possibility of former U.S. President Gerald Ford (Republican) visiting Hiroshima as the first U.S. president to do so when he visited Japan in 1974, according to an internal document from the Ford administration. A presidential aid made the proposal in an attempt to demonstrate reconciliation between Japan and the U.S. and to advocate arms reduction to the

world. The White House seriously studied the possibility for two weeks, but decided against the plan in the end out of concern that the envisioned visit could cause a negative reaction in Japan.

#### Barriers to a Hiroshima visit by Obama

(Hirotsugu Mochizuki, Washington)

Now that expectations are growing for arms reduction following the inauguration of U.S. President Obama, who has been calling for a world free of nuclear weapons, the proposal made 35 years ago is becoming more significant. But there are a number of hurdles to clear before the plan can be translated into concrete action.

Dennis Wilder, who served as National Security Council (NSC) Asian director under the previous Bush administration, commented on a visit to Hiroshima by Obama: "Now is the proper time to seriously consider the possibility. If American citizens see the President mourning for those who died in the atomic bombing, they will take it as the President showing respect for the Japanese people."

Wilder said that the White House never considered the possibility of a presidential visit to Hiroshima during his service.

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Meanwhile, many Japanese support Obama's vision of a world without nuclear weapons. There are even moves in Japan to invite the President to Hiroshima.

The key lies in the trend of public opinion in the U.S. Some Americans see the atomic bombings as appropriate, as seen from this comment by a person who once served as Defense Department secretary: "The atomic bombing saved the lives of several million people in Japan and Asia." Conservatives criticize as weak-kneed Obama's stance of admitting "the U.S.'s past mistakes" over the Iraq war and other actions. If the propriety of a visit to Pearl Harbor by a Japanese ranking official is brought up in exchange for a presidential visit to Hiroshima, it might develop into a delicate political issue.

15) Campbell to visit Japan on Sept. 17

ASAHI (Page 4) (Full)  
September 15, 2009

Assistant Secretary of State Kurt Campbell, who is responsible for Japan policy, is expected to visit Japan on Sept. 17-19 and meet with the new prime minister, Yukio Hatoyama, the new foreign minister, Katsuya Okada, and other new government officials, according to a senior Democratic Party of Japan (DPJ) member. The U.S. hopes to confirm the close Japan-U.S. relationship before the first meeting between Hatoyama and U.S. President Barack Obama planned for next week.

In the U.S. there is concern about the DPJ's promise to propose revising the Japan-U.S. Status of Forces Agreement and to make efforts to revise the U.S. force realignment plan. Some in the U.S. were perplexed by an article written by Hatoyama, which they took as criticism of the U.S.

Campbell is one of the Obama administration officials most knowledgeable about Japan.

16) Senior U.S. officials to visit Japan in succession for policy talks with incoming Hatoyama administration

YOMIURI (Page 2) (Full)  
Evening, September 14, 2009

(Satoshi Ogawa, Washington)

The U.S. government plans to send senior officials mainly in the State Department and the Defense Department to Japan to exchange views with officials in the new Hatoyama administration.



Final coordination is underway for a visit to Japan by Deputy Secretary of State James Steinberg in late September. This is part of his round of visits in Asia, but the main purpose of the visit is to start full-scale talks with new Japanese government officials. In addition to administrative talks with Vice Foreign Minister Mitoji Yabunaka and others, Steinberg is scheduled to meet the foreign minister and other cabinet members in the new administration. National Security Council Asian Affairs Director Jeffery Bader is expected to accompany Steinberg on his Asia visit.

The U.S. government expects that Japanese and U.S. government officials will fully exchange views. A U.S. diplomatic source said,

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"We are worried that the Democratic Party of Japan in its policy agreement on forming a coalition government referred to plans calling for a review of the realignment of U.S. forces and for revision of the Japan-U.S. Status of Forces Agreement."

During this week, Assistant Secretary of State Kurt Campbell will visit Japan. In the following week, President Barack Obama and Secretary of State Hillary Clinton will meet Democratic Party of Japan (DPJ) President Yukio Hatoyama and Secretary General Katsuya Okada (who has been tapped as foreign minister), both of whom will be visiting the U.S. to attend the UN General Assembly and other meetings.

Furthermore, arrangements are now being made for Special Representatives for North Korea Policy Stephen Bosworth to visit Japan in early October. Around Oct. 20, Secretary of Defense Robert Gates is slated to visit Japan to discuss the U.S. military realignment plan, the SOFA, and Japan's host-nation support.

17) DPJ Okada agrees with Australian ambassador on importance of EPA

MAINICHI (Page 5) (Full)  
September 15, 2009

Secretary General Katsuya Okada of the Democratic Party of Japan (DPJ), who has been informally named as the next foreign minister, met with Australian Ambassador to Japan McLean on Sept. 14 at the party headquarters. They agreed on the importance of a Japan-Australian economic partnership agreement (EPA) and vowed to continue talks on the matter.

18) Nippon Keidanren seeks cautious stance from DPJ in setting goal for greenhouse gas emissions reduction

YOMIURI (Page 2) (Full)  
September 15, 2009

The Japan Business Federation (Nihon Keidanren) on Sept. 14 finalized a list of 10 requests to be submitted to the incoming Democratic Party of Japan (DPJ)-led administration. Concerning a goal for greenhouse gas emissions reduction, the report calls on DPJ President Hatoyama, who has announced a plan to cut emissions by 25 percent in comparison with the 1990 level, to take a cautious stance, noting that a mid-term goal should be set based on national discussions on the propriety of the burden shouldered by the people and the feasibility of the goal.

Nippon Keidanren Chairman Fujio Mitarai at a press conference on the 14th pointed out, "The government should obtain understanding from the people by presenting specific methods for cutting greenhouse gas emissions based on scientific studies." He also expressed the view that the participation of major emitters, such as the U.S., India, and China, in the protocol should be the premise for Japan to set an emissions reduction goal. The list of requests also includes a call for strengthening the employment safety net.

19) Japan, China likely to agree to look into East Asia community initiative

YOMIURI (Page 2) (Excerpts)  
September 15, 2009

Japan and China are expected to agree to cooperate in looking into an East Asia community initiative at a bilateral summit between Japan's new Prime Minister Hatoyama and Chinese President Hu Jintao to be held in New York later this month. This was revealed by a Democratic Party of Japan (DPJ) official on Sept. 14. The East Asia community initiative is included in the DPJ's manifesto for the Lower House election. There is a possibility that the U.S. will express concern about the creation of such a framework under the leadership of Japan and China.

Coordination is now underway to hold the summit, the first meeting between the two leaders, around Sept. 23 on the sidelines of the UN General Assembly. Hatoyama will ask Hu to cooperate on the initiative. According to a source connected with Japan-China relations, the Chinese side has indicated its understanding of the initiative and Hu is expected to display a positive stance.

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